

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a listing of the claims in the application with claim 1 shown as currently amended.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A printed note deposit machine, comprising:
 - a user recognition unit identifying a user with an authenticated person;
 - an inlet unit serving as a receiving teller in which printed notes are deposited;
 - a dispensing unit receiving printed notes deposited in the inlet unit to dispense them in sequence;
 - an identifying unit classifying the dispensed printed notes into four categories of authenticated notes, counterfeit notes, unidentifiable notes, and rejected notes;
 - a temporary money holder for temporarily storing therein the printed notes identified and classified in the identifying unit as authenticated notes, counterfeit notes, and unidentified notes with all other printed notes classified as rejected notes with the rejected notes segregated from said temporarily stored printed notes;
 - a plurality of storage cells respectively for storing said printed notes which have been temporarily stored in the temporary money holder with said plurality of storage cells having a predetermined storage cell assigned for separately storing counterfeit notes; and

a rejection unit for accumulating the printed notes which have been identified and classified as rejected notes by the identifying unit for return to a user;

wherein authenticated notes temporarily stored in the temporary money holder are stored in any of the plurality of the storage cells other than said predetermined storage cell for return to a user in response to an instruction to return the deposited printed notes and wherein the counterfeit and unidentifiable notes temporarily stored in the temporary money holder remain captured in the predetermined storage cell of the plurality of the storage cells for further examination, such that counterfeit notes deemed to be counterfeit are never returned to the user and may be used as proof that such notes are counterfeit.

2. (previously cancelled).

3. (Original) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 1, wherein the temporary money holder is single in number.

4. (Original) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 1, wherein the identifying unit includes a serial number reader unit to read a serial number unique to each of the printed notes.

5. (Previously Amended) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 1, wherein the identifying unit includes a memory in which a stores printed note information obtained by a plurality of sensors from the printed notes immediately after deposit and classifies the printed note information by each of the sensors into the four categories.

6. (Previously Amended) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 1, further comprising a memory unit storing a transaction data which is a combination of a user information from the user recognition unit, the printed note information from the identifying unit, and a serial number of a machine information relating each of the printed notes.

7. (Original) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 1, further comprising a communication unit externally transferring the user information from the identification unit, the printed note information from the identification unit, and the machine information on the machine used to identify the printed notes.

8. (Original) A printed note deposit system, comprising:

a plurality of the printed note deposit machines as defined in Claim 7;

a database apparatus installed in a central office and receiving transaction data from the memory of each of the printed note deposit machines to accumulate the transaction data; and

a trace unit matching the transaction data accumulated in the database apparatus with transaction data on the detected counterfeit or unidentified notes to track down a user of the unauthenticated notes.

9. (Previously Amended) A printed note deposit machine, comprising: a user recognition unit identifying a user with an authenticated person; an inlet unit serving as a receiving teller in which printed notes are deposited; a dispensing unit receiving printed notes deposited in the inlet unit to dispense them in sequence;

an identifying unit classifying the dispensed printed notes into four categories of authenticated notes, counterfeit notes, unidentifiable notes, and rejected notes;

a temporary money holder storing therein the authenticated notes, the counterfeit notes and the unidentified notes other than rejected notes;

a plurality of storage cells respectively for storing the printed notes with which have been temporarily stored in the temporary money holder with said plurality of storage cells having a predetermined storage cell assigned for separately storing counterfeit notes; and

a rejection unit for accumulating the printed notes which have been identified as the rejected notes by the identifying unit to return them to the user;

wherein the identifying unit includes a memory which stores printed note information obtained by a plurality of sensors from the printed notes immediately after deposit and classifies the printed note information by each of the sensors into the four categories; and

wherein authenticated notes temporarily stored in the temporary money holder are stored in any of the plurality of the storage cells other than said predetermined storage cell for return to a user in response to an instruction to return the deposited printed notes and wherein the counterfeit and unidentifiable notes temporarily stored in the temporary money holder remain captured in the predetermined storage cell of the plurality of the storage cells for further examination, such that counterfeit notes deemed

to be counterfeit are never returned to the user and may be used as proof that such notes are counterfeit.

10. (Previously Added) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 9, wherein the temporary money holder is single in number.

11. (Previously Added) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 9, wherein the identifying unit includes a serial number reader unit to read a serial number unique to each of the printed notes.

12. (Currently Amended) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 9, further comprising a memory unit storing [a] transaction data which is a combination of a user information from the user recognition wherein the identifying unit, the printed note information from the identifying unit, and a serial number of a machine that was used to identify each of the printed notes.

13. (Previously Amended) The printed note deposit machine according to claim 9, further comprising a communication unit externally transferring the user information from the identification unit, the printed note information from the identification unit, and the machine information on the machine used to identify the printed notes